

## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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S E C R E T

## REPORT

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This is UNEVALUATED Information

SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

1. Between 2400-3000 members of the G.S.T. are receiving intensive training every two months to fit them for the ranks of captain and major.

2. The training schools are located at:

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Ballenstedt landing ground.

Laucha landing ground.

Rechlin, former sea sport school near shipyard.

Tetterow, former motor sport school.

Each of these schools gives six week courses with a break of approximately eight days between courses to prepare for the next course.

3. In addition to the four main schools, there are one or two smaller schools for the officer training of senior officials such as first secretaries. One of these smaller schools is at Hasdorf, near <sup>Eisenach</sup>.

4. Each course at the four main schools is divided up into groups (Gruppe) of 16 men each. Three or four groups form an Abteilung, and three or four Abteilungen make up a "Hundertschaft" (literally 100 but in fact consisting of about 150). Each school has 4 "Hundertschaften" per course.

5. The courses are run on disciplined military lines. An officer of many years' experience who had the opportunity to visit one of the schools, and who observed G.S.T. pupils under training, stated that he was "startled to note the marked standard of discipline, improved morale, good health and apparent enjoyment of the majority of pupils. The average age was between 20-30 but a few older men participated."

6. (a) During training, pupils have the opportunity to qualify for the Allround Sportsman's Badge.

- (b) Training also includes measure of protection against atomic warfare, during which the students wear overalls of yellow poplin and rubber boots and gloves.

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- (c) During a demonstration 7m square frames of parchment-like material were steeped in petrol and burnt, giving off a very heavy plume of black smoke. No explanation is available for the purpose of this demonstration except that it had some connection with atomic warfare training.
7. In addition to the special courses for officers at the above-mentioned schools, the same training is to be passed on at Bezirk level, w.e.f. 1 July 1955. Each Bezirk will form two Hunderschaften, one for training potential officers and one for training potential NCOs.
8. In all cases, the tactical signs used in training are those used by the Soviet Army.
9. Personalities:
- (a) Lieutenant General Weiss of the KVP, has a leading part in the direction of the G.S.T. courses for officers.
- (b) Colonel Krug was the chief instructor at the Rechlin school in February and March. It is not known whether he is still there.
- (c) Lieutenant Colonel or Major Renisch is the chief instructor at the Laucha school. He is a small and energetic man with light blue eyes.
- (d) Holz (fnu), formerly First Secretary at Treptow, is in charge of training of potential NCOs.

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